

MINUTES
MARION CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL
TUESDAY, APRIL 10; 6:30 P.M.

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ashley Brady	Councilman Michael Baker
Mayor Pro-tem Emerson Hunt	Councilman Joseph Frazier
Councilman Ralph Atkinson	Councilwoman Tassie Lewis
Councilman Ronald Atkinson	

STAFF PRESENT:

Alan Ammons, City Administrator	James Brogdon, City Attorney
Pam Jones, Substitute Clerk	Chris Smith, Police Captain
Patricia Brown, City Treasurer	Trey Cooper, Fire Chief

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Ashley Brady called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. He encouraged citizens to come out to the monthly council meeting.

2. PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The open prayer was given, and Mr. Alan Ammons led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. WELCOME CITIZENS, GUESTS & PRESS

Mayor Brady welcomed citizens, guests, and the press (Hometown TV 8).

4. APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MARCH 13, 2018, SPECIAL MEETING MARCH 19, 2018 & SPECIAL MEETING MARCH 22, 2018

A motion was made by Councilman Michael Baker to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 13, 2018, Special Meeting on March 19, 2018 and Special Meeting on March 22, 2018. Councilman Joseph Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. MARCH EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Chandler Tisdale from the Marion Fire Department was named March Employee of the Month and presented with a gift certificate.

6. RECOGNITION – BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONS AND RUNNERS-UP

The City of Marion was pleased to recognize our 12u Boys State Basketball Champions with a championship medal. Mayor Pro-tem Hunt and Recreation Director Kim Elliott made the presentations and offered their congratulations to the players and coaches. They also recognized the 10u Boys Basketball as State Runners-up. All of these young men represented the City of Marion well and we are proud of their accomplishments.

7. PEE DEE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC & SEXUAL ASSAULT

Wendy Charles from the Pee Dee Coalition gave a presentation to help understand what can be done to prevent domestic and sexual assault. She presented Council and Administration with posters, ribbons and publications that can be used to educate our residents on ways to help stop this. She also reminded everyone that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month.

8. BIDS FOR GREEN STREET SPORTS COMPLEX DRAINAGE PROJECT

Mayor Brady stated that \$20,000 was included in the budget to concrete the entrance way at the Green Street Sports Complex. The low bid was \$33,200 from Herrington Construction. ***A motion was made by Councilman Ralph Atkinson, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Emerson Hunt, to accept this bid and repair drainage and concrete as we are able. The motion carried unanimously.***

9. COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

Mayor Pro-tem Emerson Hunt made a motion to appoint Byron Beck to the Capital Sales Tax Commission, seconded by Councilman Ronald Atkinson. The motion carried unanimously.

10. RESOLUTION – USDA GRANT

Councilman Ralph Atkinson made a motion to approve a Resolution for a \$50,000 USDA Grant to purchase 4 new trucks for the Public Works Department. The City will match the \$50,000. Mayor Pro-tem Emerson Hunt offered a second and the motion carried unanimously.

11. CITY CLERK ADVERTISEMENT

*Mayor Pro-tem Emerson Hunt made a motion to use the same ad as before in the search for a new City Clerk, seconded by Councilman Ronald Atkinson. It is imperative that this is done ASAP, with a May 3rd deadline for applications and must be included in the packets on May 4th. Council will review on May 8th. **The motion carried unanimously.***

12. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

A. Spring Clean-up Week April 23-27

Mr. Ammons stated that Spring clean-up week is April 23-27 and that residents are able to put anything they want to throw out by the street and it will be picked up.

B. Update on Grass Letter

Mr. Ammons stated that he has spoken with Dennis and he will compile a list of the properties that are not in compliance with our Grass Ordinance. Letters will be sent to property owners as the lists are turned in.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Ammons stated that the parking lots at CD Joyner and Grice's have been striped. "No Loitering" 12:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. signs are going up in the parks.

13. CITY ATTORNEY'S LEGAL UPDATE

Attorney James Brogdon had no update.

14. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Mayor Brady stated that Departmental Reports were included in the Council packets for review.

15. DISTRICT AND CITY UPDATES FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Brady has been notified by Fire Chief Trey Cooper that our ISO rating is now 3, down from 4. This should help with insurance rates. April 12th is the Fox84 Initiative run, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The Marion Police Department has established an internet "Safe Zone" at the Police Department. This can be used for meeting a buyer or seller when you have done a transaction on the internet. It will also be a safe place for child custody visitation exchanges, or for any reason that you need a safe area.

Councilman Michael Baker had no comment at this time.

Councilman Joseph Frazier commented that there has still been nothing done to clean up Thomas Trailer Park.

Councilman Ronald Atkinson thanked the City for hiring "Red" to clean up the streets.

Councilman Ralph Atkinson had no comment at this time.

Councilwoman Tassie Lewis thanked everyone for their hard work. She also thanked the Pee Dee Coalition for all they do.

Mayor Pro-tem Emerson Hunt commented that he appreciates having teams and coaches that work hard and represent Marion so well. He again offered his congratulations to our 12u State Champions and 10u State Runners-up. HE thanked Recreation Director Kim Elliott for all she is doing to make the Rec even more of a success.

Mayor Ashley Brady thanked the Public Works Department for the hard work at Rose Hill and around the city, getting it beautiful for Easter. They did a fantastic job.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Joseph Frazier, to go into Executive Session for a Contractual Matter – Municipal Court, Personnel Matter and Legal Matter – Police Department, The motion passed unanimously.

17. POSSIBLE ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

Returning from executive session, a motion was made by Councilman Ronald Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Ralph Atkinson, to return to regular session. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Ashley Brady stated that there was no action taken during executive session.

Mayor Pro-tem Emerson Hunt made a motion to retain an attorney as a Public Defender, as outlined in the proposal. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ronald Atkinson and carried unanimously.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Councilman Ralph Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Ronald Atkinson, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Mayor Ashley Brady

Substitute Clerk Pam Jones